

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~decreasing~~ modulating an immune response comprising the ~~step of administering to an animal, in need thereof, a composition comprising~~ a soluble polypeptide comprising at least a portion of amino acids 1 to 136 of SEQ ID NO:2 or a polypeptide mimetic thereof, in an amount effective to modulate the levels of TREM-1 and/or TREM-1SV ligand binding activity whereby the immune response is modulated in the animal ~~variant of TREM-1 in which the variant lacks a functional transmembrane region and that is a competitive inhibitor of the ligand to TREM-1, said soluble variant decreases myeloid cell activation.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~competitive inhibitor is~~ a polypeptide comprising at least a portion of ~~the amino acid sequence~~ amino acids 36 to 114 of SEQ.ID.NO:2, the whole portion of amino acids 36-114 of SEQ ID NO:2, or more than the whole portion of amino acids 36-114 of SEQ ID NO:2.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 or 3, wherein said immune response is an inflammatory response.

Claims 6-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 1 or 3, wherein said ~~competitive inhibitor~~ polypeptide is admixed with a pharmaceutical carrier.

Claims 12-14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 11~~ claim 1 or 3, wherein ~~the~~ the animal is suffering from a disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of organ

transplant/rejection, bone marrow transplant/rejection, graft versus host disease, infectious disease, and an autoimmune disease ~~diseases~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the disease or condition is an infectious disease and which is septic arthritis or septic shock.

17-38. (Canceled)

39. (New) A method of modulating an immune response comprising administering to an animal, in need thereof a composition comprising an antisense RNA and/or a vector to at least a portion of Seq ID NO: 2 to modulate expression of TREM-1 and TREM-1sv.

40. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the disease or condition is an autoimmune disease.

41. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition modulates LPS-induced cytokine production.

42. (New) The method of claim 1, 3 or 39, wherein the animal is a human.